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Surf Pines Association Newsletter
 for all members



the Surf Pines Breeze

Annual Meeting Alert

August 5 is the date chosen by the board for the 2000 annual meeting of Surf Pines Association. It will be held as usual at the Astoria Golf and Country Club at 10 a.m.

On the agenda are:

- year-end and financial reports
- budget proposals for 2000-2001
- revisions to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
- election of two members of the board to succeed John McGowan and Ralph Todd

Al Laakso is chairing the nominating committee, which includes Burr Allegaert (738-7717) and Dick Tevis (738-3111).

Anyone with interest in serving on the board should contact the committee and make that interest known. The board would like to have at least three candidates for the two positions. So far, two people have signaled their willingness to serve.

Of Fire and Celebration

Fireworks Reminder

Fireworks of all kinds are strictly prohibited within Surf Pines as a safety and fire prevention measure. Please abide by this sensible rule.

If you want to celebrate the July Fourth holiday (or any other occasion) with fireworks, the beach is available and a safe place to release them. But be sure to stay well away from the beach grass and other vegetation with all combustible materials. Regardless of how much rain we have had, beach grass catches fire very readily. That was demonstrated when, a few years ago, a spark from a riding lawn mower ignited grass in a field on the west side of Ocean Drive and burned a substantial area before it was controlled.

Fire Rules

Newcomers to this area are often unaware of the fire hazards that surround us and it is well to repeat cautionary information from time to time. The Clatsop County Fire Defense Board has issued a set of guidelines

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Board Projects

Two projects that the board is currently working on and hopes to complete early in the new fiscal year (starts 7/1/2000) are updates of the telephone directory and the handbook, to be undertaken by the community relations committee under Tom Smith. Linda Thompson, our invaluable editor, who worked on the original *Handbook*, is tackling it with Bill Barrons, as well as the directory, with Lani Johnson assisting.

To minimize errors, the directory committee requests that each resident family supply the information to be listed. You can include e-mail addresses as well as names, phone number, and, of course, street numbers. If you list your e-mail address, Tom promises not to use it for unwelcome communications. You can let him know what material you'd rather not receive.

Directories will be available to all members this time, but will list only information on developed property. The hope is to mail them with the October billing.

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Association News

Surf Pines Web Site

Tom Smith has established a web site that carries a good deal of information about Surf Pines, including copies of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, board meeting minutes, committee reports, a community calendar, and personal advertisements. He has also made a pictorial tour of Surf Pines with his digital camera for those who may want to find out how much more there is to the area than their immediate neighborhood. You can access the site at www.sunsetbeach-or.com/surfpines.

Tom has plans to expand the material you'll be able to find at the site and so far has received around 35 e-mail addresses.

Newcomers

The suggestion has been made that we publish in the *Breeze* the names of new members. Anyone who would prefer not to be listed may let Tom know. We will start adding that item with the next issue in October, unless members say "please don't."

Gate Codes

Special visitor codes for the next three months are listed at the bottom of the enclosed bill for July. Be sure to supply these numbers to casual visitors or service people rather than your own personal code. But remember, when you give someone the visitors' code, it is only operational between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.

If you want more information on gate codes, transmitters, and access policies, pick up an information sheet from Rolf Rosenberg at the south gate.

Dues Billing

Many members, especially newcomers, may not realize that quarterly dues are billed in arrears, that is, for the preceding three months. So when you receive the bill in this envelope, you have already received the services your money helps to pay for. That information may make the board's request for prompt payment appear less peremptory.

The board has revised its schedule of sending reminders, so that the first letter about an unpaid bill will not go out until 45 days after the billing is sent. If you have difficulty making a payment, do not hesitate to contact the board. They are ready and willing to make special arrangements in cases of hardship. But to leave a bill unpaid quarter after quarter is to impose an added burden on your neighbors.

Board Policy

The board has prepared an information sheet for contractors, spelling out procedures for working in Surf Pines. Rolf can supply detailed information to anyone who wishes it. If you are undertaking construction, please make sure your contractors are familiar with our rules, which include speed

limits and location of underground utility lines, as well as pet control, noise, parking, and other pointers.

Address Reminder

Everyone should have received a reminder from the Warrenton post office about making address changes. After July 31 the post office will no longer deliver mail to the old four-digit street addresses or the old street names. So be sure to let all correspondents you want to hear from know the current correct address.

Another Mysterious Disappearance

Another piece of Surf Pines equipment seems to have gone underground. This time it is the gray plastic ballot box used at annual meetings. The box actually belongs to the water board, which kindly lent it to Surf Pines Association for use at last year's annual meeting. It has not been seen since then. With it were the microphone and recorder used to record meetings. Would whoever took it for safekeeping kindly return it to Natalie Cellars or Babe Price, so that we can beg to borrow it back again for the August 5 meeting, on the promise we won't steal it again.

Fire, from page 1

about outdoor burning in the county and Gearhart Fire Chief, Bill Eddy, has also been distributing reminders of ways to minimize risk. A pamphlet, *Reduce Your Risk of Wild-fire*, is available from the Gearhart department.

Homeowners should know that permits for outdoor burning are required; that there are restrictions on when, where, and how materials can be burned; and that during periods of extreme dryness no outdoor burning is permitted. Details are available from the Oregon Department of Forestry (325-7215) and Gearhart Fire Department (738-7838), both of which serve this area. Before you start a fire outdoors, be sure to get a permit and check with the authorities that it is safe.

**Surf Pines Association
Annual Meeting
&
Election**

August 5

10 a.m.

**Astoria
Country Club**

**Your chance
to hear, speak
and decide.**



Dunes Rules

Members who own property on the west side of Ocean Drive should be aware of the county's and state's rules regarding the dunes. It is illegal to drive on or over the foredune and the vegetation must not be plowed up, even on your own property.

Dune grass and other vegetation stabilize the sand and help provide a buffer from the ocean, wind, and blowing sand. That buffer has made the land to the east stable enough to be developed. The foredune itself is unstable and must be protected from vehicle traffic. So there are protective restrictions on how the dune can be used. Anyone who plows up dune grass or punches drivable paths across the dune to access the beach is liable to fines and the expense of replacing the vegetation.

These rules are enforced.

On the other hand, it is permissible to create a footpath to the beach by cutting the grass and the vegetation height can be maintained by mowing. In fact, Surf Pines has long had easements for pedestrians from Ocean Drive to the beach. Five of these easements have been mowed and

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Board, from page 1

You can send your preferred listing c/o Woodford & Wood when paying your July dues.

Since the *Handbook* was first published in August of 1994, selected pages were updated in October 1996. Considering how many changes of ownership have occurred and the number of new homes built in the intervening years, the board suspects that many members have never seen a *Handbook*. Its original purpose was to inform all property owners about how Surf Pines functions as a private residential area. It included as much information as the board thought people would and could use, based largely on their own experiences as either long-term residents or recent arrivals. How useful the contents have been over the years is anyone's guess. But by now some material is outdated and most of the binders have probably gone astray. The board hoped that as property changed hands, the *Handbook* would, too, but it has no way of knowing whether they were passed on.

If you have any ideas of what material you would like in a handbook, please tell them to any member of the board or the community relations committee, which also includes Bonnie Groshong, Norma

Keever, Kathy Arndt, and Tammy Dichter. The committee is forming an emergency telephone group under Bonnie, who will also act as liaison with newcomers to welcome them and see that they have any information they need. Norma will revive the tradition of a street party following the annual meeting and will send condolences and congratulations where appropriate on behalf of the board. The community relations committee can always use more help with these projects, so contact Tom Smith if you have time and interest.

One perennial problem that administrator Bill Barrons and the committee expect to grapple with more effectively is keeping up with changes in property ownership. Often it is some months before the board knows about new residents or property transfers, notwithstanding all efforts to get title companies to keep the association informed. So if you find you have a new neighbor, do let Bill know or inform a board member. If new construction is started near you, pass the word along to Bill (325-5174).

We suspect all Surf Pines residents would rather see footprints than illegal driving paths across the foredunes. In addition to providing free and easy access to our gated community, it's not legal to create such paths or even to drive on the foredunes.

Each tourist season sees several sand-mired vehicles in need of assistance when drivers' judgment exceeds the traction and power of their vehicles.

Each summer sees some damage to the vegetation which protects our homes—damage we hope will be rectified by law enforcement officers' alertness and time's healing powers.

Community relations committee members hope updating and distributing the Surf Pines Handbook will inform all residents about foredunes' fragility, among other appropos topics.



Tsunami Hazards

Once again coastal communities are paying close attention to the dangers of earthquakes and tsunamis. Although periodic upsurges of interest may make it seem less urgent to those who have seen the topic come and go, in fact research and concern among officials have been ongoing.

New guidelines have been issued as a result of recent findings and the Clatsop County Sheriff's Department has issued the advice boxed below.

If you feel an earthquake and it is strong enough to keep you from standing up or you are informed that a tsunami or tidal wave is expected on the coast, IMMEDIATELY MOVE TO HIGH GROUND. In Surf Pines this means to an area along or east of Manion Drive and Sea Breeze Drive. Wait there for further instructions.

DO NOT GO TO OR TOWARDS THE BEACH.

Surf Pines Water Association Droplets

We thought the pipe improvement project would by now be history, but find we are still in the middle of Phase 4.

Don't despair: it's getting closer.

Warrenton's new city hall building, a change of city manager and engineer managed to put our project on their back burner.

For all with eagle eyes, we posted a "For Sale" sign on the north well field property. Within a few months, we received an offer of \$20,000, which the water board voted to accept, as no other offers were presented. Because of prevailing flooding, the property is considered unbuildable.

We thank the Bourqueins and the Wilcoxes for their generous offer and congratulate them on adding to their land holdings.

—Babe Price, President
Surf Pines Water Board

Inter-Community Relations

A reminder to all Surf Pines members: when Clatsop County gave approval for Pinehurst development, it stipulated that the only passage into Surf Pines should be a locked emergency gate, keys to be held by emergency services. This restriction was in response to demands by a large majority of Surf Pines residents. Pinehurst is equally interested in restricting traffic and preserving privacy.

Those area residents who persist in ignoring "No Trespassing" signs and fences along property lines must be aware that they are trespassing illegally and violating others' privacy. They would resent similar invasions of their own property. Please respect the right to privacy and use established roads, paths and the beach for hiking, running and biking.

Dunes, from page 3

marked as official footpaths for use of residents. To keep cars from trying to drive from the beach over the dune, "No Trespassing" signs have recently been erected on the marker posts. Individual owners have also forged footpaths from their homes to the beach. Other residents are urged to use the officially marked paths in order to respect the privacy of homeowners on the west side of Ocean Drive.

If you have any questions about beach and dune use and restrictions, you can contact Bill Barrons or the Clatsop County Department of Planning (325-8611).

Surf Pines Association Board of Directors

President	John McGowan	33104 Malarkey Lane	861-3732
Vice President	Ralph Todd	33236 Silverspot Lane	861-9771 rktodd@seasurf.com
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Treasurer	Allen Cellars	89607 Lakeside Court	717-0628
At Large	Bob Chopping	89617 Lakeside Court	717-0226
At Large	Al Laakso	90031 Manion Drive	861-9396
At Large	Mark Roberts	89543 Lakeside Court	717-0863
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the Surf Pines Breeze

is a quarterly publication of the Surf Pines Association, 2003 Manion Drive, Warrenton, Oregon 97146.

Members are invited to contribute articles or comments, letters to the editor, or anything fit to print. Don't hesitate – shoot the Breeze!

Layout: Lani Johnson

